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OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECE, ENRG, OCON

SUBJECT: ECE - MEETING OF EXPERTS ON ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY
IN ENERGY, MARCH 8-11

1. THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CONVENED WITH A LIMITED MANDATE
TO EXAMINE THE REVISED AND UP-DATED STUDY BY THE EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY ON ENERGY ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY IN THE ECE
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REGION (E/ECE/883/REV.1) AND COMMENTS OF PRINCIPAL SUB-

SIDIARY BODIES CONCERNED, WITH A VIEW TO DRAWING UP RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE WORK ON CONSERVATION IN THE ECE REGION.

2. FOURTH CHAPTER OF THE STUDY FORMULATES SOME GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTS POSSIBLE AREAS OF FURTHER COOPERATION WITHIN THE ECE FRAMEWORK. APPENDIX II CONTAINS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF RELEVANT RELATED WORK UNDERTAKEN OR PROJECTED IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES (EEC, CEMA, IEA). APPENDIX III PROVIDES A SYNOPSIS OF THE PROJECTS RELATING TO CONSERVATION ALREADY INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAMS OF WORK AND PRIORITIES OF THE ECE'S PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES.

3. ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY STANOVNIK IS COGNIZANT OF THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY SOME ECE REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE AD HOC MEETING MIGHT BE USED TO GO BEYOND THE EXPRESSED MANDATE - I.E., TO UPDATE AND DISCUSS THE STUDY - AND EXPAND INTO OTHER ENERGY FIELDS. HE HAS ATTEMPTED TO ALLAY THIS CONCERN IN ASSURING THAT THE MEETING WOULD ADHERE STRICTLY TO THE MANDATE. HE PROPOSES THAT THE MEETING EXAMINE ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY ECONOMY IN VARIOUS ECE SUBSIDIARY BODIES (APPENDIX III) AND IDENTIFY ONE MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROJECT WHICH COULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARIAT IN COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT RAPORTEURS. HE ALSO SUGGESTS THAT ENERGY ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY BE A CONTINUING ITEM ON THE ECE AGENDA AND THAT THE STUDY BE UPDATED ON AN ANNUAL OR BIENNIAL BASIS. FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS CONSTITUTE U.S. POSITION ON THIS MEETING. SEPARATE TELEGRAM FOLLOWS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS OF MEETING.

4. U.S. POSITION. WE ARE GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO STANOVNIK'S OBJECTIVE OF ENCOURAGING FURTHER COOPERATION AMONG ECE MEMBER COUNTRIES IN THE AREAS OF ENERGY ECONOMY AND CONSERVATION. WE BELIEVE THE ECE PROVIDES A UNIQUE FORUM FOR COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE ENERGY FIELD BETWEEN EASTERN AND WESTERN COUNTRIES. THE SUBJECT AT HAND - ENERGY ECONOMY - IS ONE IN WHICH ALL HAVE A STRONG INTEREST AND SHARE COMMON OBJECTIVES, PARTICULARLY IN THE PRESENT ERA OF SHARPLY INCREASED ENERGY COSTS.

5. FURTHER, STANOVNIK AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BE COMMENDED IN THEIR EFFORT TO MOVE BEYOND THE GENERALITIES AND FOCUS ON SPECIFIC SECTORS FOR POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE PROJECTS. THE LIST CONTAINED IN CHAPTER IV IS THOROUGH AND COMPREHENSIVE AND INCLUDES A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS WHICH COULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE UNITED STATES. U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT WE PRESENTLY HAVE UNDERWAY AN ACTIVE R & D PROGRAM IN THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY (IEA) TO WHICH REFERENCE IS MADE IN ANNEX II OF THE ECE

STUDY. THE IEA PROGRAM IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE AGENCY'S COMPREHENSIVE LONG TERM PROGRAM TO DEVELOP NEW ENERGY SUPPLIES, IMPROVE CONSERVATION EFFORTS, AND THUS LESSEN DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL. THE IEA HAS IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING SIXTEEN PRIORITY AREAS OF R & D COOPERATION: COAL TECHNOLOGY, SOLAR ENERGY, RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT, THERMONUCLEAR SAFETY, WASTE HEAT UTILIZATION, ENERGY CONSERVATION, MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE UTILIZATION, GEOTHERMAL ENERGY, WAVE POWER, WIND POWER, CONVERSION, HIGH TEMPERATURE GAS REACTOR FOR PROCESS HEAT, SMALL SOLAR PLANTS AND OCEAN THERMAL GRADIENT. COOPERATION IS ALREADY UNDERWAY IN A NUMBER OF THESE AREAS, INCLUDING A JOINTLY FINANCED \$15-24 MILLION COAL COMBUSTION TEST FACILITY. THE AGENCY'S FIRST MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING ON R & D WAS HELD IN PARIS LAST NOVEMBER. THIS MEETING HAS SERVED TO GIVE FURTHER IMPETUS TO THE IEA PROGRAM. THE MINISTERS AGREED TO A PROGRAM OF SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS OF R & D STRATEGY AS WELL AS HOLDING PERIODIC REVIEWS OF MEMBER COUNTRY ENERGY R & D

PROGRAMS.

6. U.S. DELEGATE SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT WE HAVE MADE IEA THE PRINCIPAL VEHICLE OF OUR MULTILATERAL ENERGY R & D EFFORTS AND THAT BULK OF OUR MANPOWER AND RESOURCES WILL CONSEQUENTLY BE DEVOTED TO THAT FORUM. STANOVNIK APPEARS TO HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE ABOVE AND IN FACT THE STUDY ACKNOWLEDGES THE CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE CONSEQUENT NEED TO AVOID DUPLICATION OR OVERLAPPING EFFORTS WHICH COULD WASTE LIMITED RESOURCES.

7. THIS HAVING BEEN SAID WE WOULD NOT OBJECT TO THE AD HOC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GROUP OF EXPERTS DISCUSSING POSSIBLE TOPICS FROM AMONG THE LIST OF 41 RESEARCH PROJECTS. INTERESTED U.S. AGENCIES HAVE REVIEWED THE LIST AND HAVE INDICATED A GENERAL INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS (NUMBERS ARE KEYED TO THE PROJECTS AS LISTED ON PP. 158-160 OF THE STUDY). U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS IS A TENTATIVE INDICATION OF GENERAL INTEREST AND THAT THE MAKING OF ANY FORMAL U.S. COMMITMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY STUDIED SUBSEQUENTLY BY THE CONCERNED AGENCIES.

8. LIST OF POSSIBLE (I.E. ACCEPTABLE) PROJECTS: (5), (9), (10), (11), (17), (21), (26), (29), (30), (31), (34), (36), (37). FULLER DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE PROJECTS AND U.S. INTEREST IN THEM BEING CARRIED BY U.S. DELEGATE. KISSINGER

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